

- B1 cont
- A1 cont
- of the main beam;
- (c) a hook extending in the first transverse direction and a second longitudinal direction from the proximal end of the main beam, and defining a concavity open in a second transverse direction;
  - (d) a first leg extending in a second transverse direction from the first edge of the main beam with a proximal longitudinal end substantially transversely aligned with the proximal end of the main beam; and
  - (e) a second leg extending in the second transverse direction from the second edge of the main beam with a proximal longitudinal end substantially transversely aligned with the proximal end of the main beam;
  - (f) wherein the main beam, first leg and second leg define a concavity accessible from the first transverse direction whereby the support bracket is transversely nestable.
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18. (Once Amended) An article of commerce, comprising:

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- A2
- (a) a length of eaves trough; and
  - (b) a plurality of eaves trough support brackets comprising:
    - (i) a main beam having longitudinally spaced distal and proximal ends, laterally spaced first and second edges, and transversely spaced first and second surfaces,
    - (ii) a connection element extending in a first transverse direction from the distal end of the main beam,
    - (iii) a hook extending in the first transverse direction and a second longitudinal direction from the proximal end of the main beam, and defining a concavity open in a second transverse direction,
    - (iv) a first leg extending in a second transverse direction from the first edge of the main beam with a proximal longitudinal end substantially transversely aligned with the proximal end of the main beam, and
    - (v) a second leg extending in the second transverse direction from the second edge of the main beam with a proximal longitudinal end substantially transversely aligned with the proximal end of the main beam;

- (vi) wherein the main beam, first leg and second leg define a concavity accessible from the first transverse direction whereby the support bracket is transversely nestable.

19.

(Once Amended) A method of installing eaves trough, comprising the steps of:

- (a) obtaining a length of eaves trough defining a water diversion channel and comprising:
- (i) a bottom having longitudinally spaced and laterally extending first and second edges,
  - (ii) a back wall transversely extending from the second laterally extending edge of the bottom and having a laterally extending distal edge transversely spaced from the bottom in a primary transverse direction,
  - (iii) a front wall transversely extending from the first laterally extending edge of the bottom and having a laterally extending distal edge transversely spaced from the bottom in the primary transverse direction, and
  - (iv) a laterally extending snap-lock channel formed along the distal edge of the front wall[.];
- (b) obtaining a plurality of eaves trough support brackets comprising:
- (i) a main beam having longitudinally spaced distal and proximal ends, laterally spaced first and second edges, and transversely spaced first and second surfaces,
  - (ii) a connection element extending in a first transverse direction from the distal end of the main beam configured and arranged for releasable engagement within the snap-lock channel formed in the eaves trough,
  - (iii) a hook extending in the first transverse direction and a second longitudinal direction from the proximal end of the main beam, and defining a concavity open in a second transverse direction,
  - (iv) a first leg extending in a second transverse direction from the first edge of the main beam with a proximal longitudinal end substantially transversely aligned with the proximal end of the main beam, and
  - (v) a second leg extending in the second transverse direction from the second

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edge of the main beam with a proximal longitudinal end substantially transversely aligned with the proximal end of the main beam,  
(vi) wherein the main beam, first leg and second leg define a concavity accessible from the first transverse direction whereby the support bracket is transversely nestable;

- (c) engaging the connection element of the support bracket within the snap-lock channel formed in the eaves trough;
- (d) sliding the distal edge of the rear wall of the eaves trough into the concavity defined by the hook to form a connected eaves trough assembly;
- (e) positioning the connected eaves trough assembly along an eave with the back wall of the eaves trough engaging the eave; and
- (f) securing the connected eaves trough assembly to the eave by longitudinally driving a mechanical fastener through the hook of the bracket and the rear wall of the eaves trough, and into connective engagement with the eave.

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*Add new claims 21 and 22.*

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- A3
21. (New) An eaves trough support bracket, comprising:
- (a) a main beam having longitudinally spaced distal and proximal ends, laterally spaced first and second edges, and transversely spaced first and second surfaces;
  - (b) a connection element extending in a first transverse direction from the distal end of the main beam;
  - (c) a hook extending in the first transverse direction and a second longitudinal direction from the proximal end of the main beam, and defining a concavity open in a second transverse direction;
  - (d) a first leg (i) extending in a second transverse direction from the first edge of the main beam with a proximal longitudinal end substantially transversely aligned with the proximal end of the main beam, and (ii) having a transverse height that tapers in the second transverse direction with a transverse height at the longitudinal center of the main beam of less than one half the transverse height at the proximal longitudinal end of the first leg; and

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- (e) a second leg (i) extending in the second transverse direction from the second edge of the main beam with a proximal longitudinal end substantially transversely aligned with the proximal end of the main beam, and (ii) having a transverse height that tapers in the second transverse direction with a transverse height at the longitudinal center of the main beam of less than one half the transverse height at the proximal longitudinal end of the second leg.

22.

(New) An eaves trough support bracket, comprising:

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- (a) a main beam having longitudinally spaced distal and proximal ends, laterally spaced first and second edges, and transversely spaced first and second surfaces;
  - (b) a connection element integrally formed with and extending in a first transverse direction from the distal end of the main beam wherein the connection element includes (i) a strut with a first transverse end connected to the distal end of the main beam and a second transverse end extending in a first transverse direction from the distal end of the main beam, and (ii) a tab with a first longitudinal end connected to the second transverse end of the strut and a second transverse end extending in a second longitudinal direction from the second transverse end of the strut;
  - (c) a hook extending in the first transverse direction and a second longitudinal direction from the proximal end of the main beam, and defining a concavity open in a second transverse direction;
  - (d) a first leg extending in a second transverse direction from the first edge of the main beam with a proximal longitudinal end substantially transversely aligned with the proximal end of the main beam;
  - (e) a second leg extending in the second transverse direction from the second edge of the main beam with a proximal longitudinal end substantially transversely aligned with the proximal end of the main beam;
  - (f) a laterally extending first bend line along a transition line from the main beam to the strut;
  - (g) at least one primary rib formed within the main beam and the strut which (i) extends across and substantially perpendicular to the first bend line, whereby the